

The Sun.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1909.
Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second Class Matter.
Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.
DAILY, Per Month, \$3.00
DAILY, Per Year, \$36.00
SUNDAY, Per Year, \$12.00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year, \$48.00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month, \$4.00
Postage to foreign countries added.
All checks, money orders, etc., to be made payable to THE SUN.
Published by The Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York. President of the Association, William M. Laffan, 170 Nassau street; Treasurer of the Association, M. F. Laffan, 170 Nassau street; Secretary of the Association, D. W. Quinn, 170 Nassau street.
London office, 11, Abchurch Lane, 1, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4, England. The daily and Sunday Sun are on sale in London at the American and Colonial Exchange, 11, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4, England. The daily and Sunday Sun are on sale in London at the American and Colonial Exchange, 11, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4, England.

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Savages and the Highly Civilized.
If you happened to visit certain "savage" tribes of the Indian hills and elsewhere you might find them swearing the most horrible oaths, pouring out a wealth of obscenity, blasphemy and obscenity, solemnly, religiously, for the practical purpose of making the crops grow, bringing good luck, scaring off the malignant spirits.

Bannard.
The Hon. OTTO T. BANNARD has shown himself an intelligent, a capable, an honorable and a clean tongued gentleman. Was it a mistake? Has New York come, as RUFUS CROATE in a bilious moment said this country would come some day, "to the worship of cats and rats and things vermiculate?"

The State Comptroller.
While the din and disturbances incident to election day have temporarily obscured the political consequences of the death of the Hon. CHARLES H. GAUS, there can be no mistaking its important effect upon the present condition of Republican politics in this State. Mr. GAUS's successor will be appointed by Governor HUGHES, he will serve until the Governor's own term ends, and the patronage of this office, the most important in the State government, will be placed under the control of a Hughes appointee.

As State Comptroller the Hon. CHARLES H. GAUS was recognized as the political friend and lieutenant of the Hon. WILLIAM BARNES, JR., who dictated his nomination. In Mr. BARNES's fight against Governor HUGHES no element was more important than that supplied by his influence in the Comptroller's office. Almost the first act of Mr. GAUS after he took office was to name as his deputy the Hon. OTTO KELSEY, whose removal the Governor had twice demanded of the Senate and had twice seen his request rejected. This incident in itself was adequately indicative of the attitude of Mr. GAUS.

Under the State Comptroller Mr. BARNES has many important places, fees and other profitable sources of party income all parcelled among a large number of his lieutenants, and the general belief has been that several of the most favored contributed largely to their fees to support the Albany county Republican organization. Mr. GAUS himself was closely bound up with this organization, having several times been elected Mayor of Albany by it. In the convention which renominated Governor HUGHES it was the general understanding that those who controlled the party machinery should divide the minor offices, which were to be used in the fight to curb the Governor, whose renomination had been forced upon them against their protests.

That Governor HUGHES will accept the present opportunity for its full value is probably doubtful, although far less unlikely than it would have been two years ago. The appointment of the Hon. WILLIAM M. WADSWORTH, president of the Direct Nominations League, as special counsel the other day was widely commented upon as an indication that the Governor was gradually learning to play the patronage game as his predecessors had played it. Yet the possibility that he will carry this new policy to the extent of naming a lieutenant who will use the office to make votes for direct nominations in the Legislature is slight.

On the other hand the Governor is quite certain to select for the place a

man in sympathy with his policies rather than those of the Hon. WILLIAM BARNES, JR. That the passing of the Hon. OTTO KELSEY, who because of the late Comptroller's ill health has run the office for several months, must follow is quite apparent. Other changes, the natural result of criticism in the matter of excessive fees, are probable, and the net result is that at best Mr. BARNES will have to expect an enormous loss of patronage and influence. Nor can he ever be quite safe from the danger of an aggressive attack upon his lieutenants who may be permitted to remain in the office.

The death of Mr. GAUS, then, automatically weakens the opposition to the Governor enormously. If the Governor chooses to follow the precedent he laid down in the Wadsworth case it supplies him with much fresh ammunition in his fight; if he merely contents himself with appointing a friend who will neutralize the office his enemies have still suffered an important loss in the sinews of political war. All these results flow naturally from the present incident and will have an important bearing upon the direct nominations fight next winter in the Legislature.

A Belated Black Hand Scare.
A problem that calls for careful thought and uncommon ingenuity on the part of those who must deal with it, that of controlling foreign, and especially Italian criminals, is presented by Mr. FRANK MARSHALL WHITE in the Outlook with much excited eloquence and a picturesque disarray of figures and statements. For this Mr. WHITE is not to blame. It has become the fashion for periodicals wishing to attract attention to depict in a high key of color and with the vocabulary of campaign oratory whatever matter happens to interest it for the moment, whether it be benzoate of soda or patent medicines, municipal corruption or the misdeeds of corporations, or the turpitude or nobility of individuals. He simply shouts as others do.

In brief Mr. WHITE's thesis is that the Italians are coming to the United States in large numbers, as every one knows; that with them come many criminals; he fixes the proportion at 50,000 criminals in 500,000 Italians, which is hardly flattering to these industrious and useful immigrants; that these criminals murder, rob and blackmail their countrymen with impunity. "It is safe to say that there are not half a dozen Italian workmen digging a ditch anywhere in the country to-day who are not paying tribute to their earnings to some scoundrel of their race." It is doubtful if there is one honest Italian among all the hundreds of thousands who have come to the United States who has not at one time or another been despoiled by the ex-convicts of the Mafia or the Camorra. "Of other crimes than murder on the part of Italian malefactors—highway robbery, the kidnapping of children, the dynamiting of shops and houses, the throwing of bombs, with every form of extortion and blackmail—few ever reach the courts or are heard of outside the Italian colonies." The crimes are made easier by the belief in the existence of an organized "Black Hand" which Mr. WHITE thinks is mythical.

When several crimes of the same nature occur at about the same time the temptation to ascribe them to nationality is strong. It is not, however, the usual custom of Poles and Hungarians to traffic in girls, nor of Germans to marry indiscriminately for the sake of the women's dowries and to murder them when they prove inconvenient, nor of Italians to encase in barrels the bodies of their slain foes or to carry off the children of indigent relatives. There is a basis of truth of course in Mr. WHITE's alarming discoveries. There is more crime than there should be among the Italians in this country; too many continuations of feuds begun on the other side; too many undesirable that Italy is glad to be rid of. These, too, between propitiatory gifts, with the expectation of some favor in return, and the payment of blackmail under threats is not clearly defined among people accustomed to give and receive a commission in even the smallest transactions; they can hardly distinguish between the banana or peanut to which the policeman on the beat helps himself and money paid for protection.

Mr. WHITE distributes blame for this condition of things liberally; on the immigration officers at Ellis Island, who do not recognize criminals when they apply for admission and who are slow in deporting them after they have been discovered in this country; on the Department of Commerce and Labor for its unintelligent rulings; on the Congress for its slowness in investigating and passing the legislation that Mr. WHITE thinks desirable; on the Italian Government and consular officials for neglecting to assist the American authorities; on the New York Police Department for not maintaining a special detective force, and so on. Incidentally he mentions the all important fact that Italians prefer to keep these matters to themselves and do not inform the police. Nobody else in fact seems to be so badly scared and excited about the matter as Mr. WHITE.

Now all these agencies are doing something, perhaps as much as they can reasonably, to combat these evils. At Ellis Island, where a watch must be kept first of all that no contract laborer slips in and next that contagious disease be kept out, something is done in this direction also. At any rate complaints are heard occasionally of the cruelty in keeping out some paupers and of the troubles of attractive but improper young women, and we imagine that in most instances where the evidence of criminality and violation of the law is clear criminals brought to the attention of the authorities are deported. Inspectors, however, are fallible and often overworked. The Department decisions may occasionally be wrong; in time they will have to agree with the law. As for the police service, there is a strong impression that the department is continuing the excellent work in which Lieutenant PETROSINO distinguished

himself. It has to deal with a new problem, that of American bred Italian youth that has taken up the local forms of criminality, hoodlum gangs with political pulls. The impression prevails for the moment at least that more Italians are ready to seek the protection of the police and of the courts, which, when the practice becomes general, is the one sure remedy against oppression from their compatriots.

One remedy, proposed to Congress by Mr. MARCUS BRAUN, a special commissioner employed to report on immigration, and supported by Mr. WHITE, shows curiously the lengths to which officials are ready to go under the rule of a Republican party that has been dominated during two terms by THEODORE ROOSEVELT. The proposal is to demand a "certificate of origin" from every person seeking to enter the United States. This is to be issued by the United States Consul nearest to the place where the person has resided for at least a year, "only in that the Consul receive satisfactory information respecting such alien from the secret service officials to be appointed, who should be held to make proper and extensive inquiries in every case where application for such certificate is made." The United States to maintain and pay a secret service in foreign countries, numerous enough to examine each of the half million emigrants that Italy, for instance, sends yearly. This unexampled inquisition into private life and business, on the assumption that every Italian may be a rascal, Mr. WHITE approves of. He declares ingeniously that it would be as easy for an honest man to secure a certificate as it would be difficult for an ex-convict to obtain one. He must have a poor opinion of the sentences of Italian criminals.

The Italian immigrant problem is settling itself, as the other racial problems have been settled; the Italian stays now, and is becoming absorbed into the mass of Americans. Even the criminal value of the question is not as black as it is painted, and it will be settled, it is to be hoped, without recourse to the foreign spy system or the introduction of the Russian passport.

Election Day in Breathitt.
On Sunday Governor WILLSON of Kentucky, who was in New Orleans with the President, received the following alarming telegram from home: "Hell is to pay in Breathitt county." This statement was as truthful as profane, and the Hon. AUGUSTUS E. WILLSON left at once for Frankfort to deal with a situation more prolific of trouble than night riding in the tobacco districts. Meanwhile Acting Governor COX had ordered out the Lexington company of the State Guards and sent it to the scene by special train.

The state of civil discord at Jackson, the county town of Breathitt, naturally suggests the blood feuds of the Hargises and the Redwines, and the Callahans and the Sebastians, and there is no doubt that these bushwhacking families and their retainers are engaged in the sinister affair described so aptly in the telegram to Governor WILLSON. But it is in another light that we see the activities of the Breathitt feudists. In this case there are no social wrongs, such as the killing of a relative, to redress—except that the occasion, a sordidly political one that arrays the clans against each other, may be found convenient for the wiping out of old scores. In the turn that matters have taken—not new, to be sure, to readers of the Breathitt blood letting romances—our old friends the feudal chiefs are politicians, some ranging themselves on the Democratic side and others embracing the Republican cause. In Breathitt the ultimate arguments are always Winchester, and so the partisans of the candidates for Circuit Judge, the office that is the biggest bone of contention, are well "heeled" with rifles and cartridges. Several days ago it was reported that the ballots to be used in to-day's election had been stolen by Republican partisans. It appears from the following explanation that there was some ground for the uneasiness of their opponents:

County Clerk S. H. HUBBARD, Republican, denies that the ballots for Tuesday's election were stolen, as charged by the Democratic opposition. He states that he gave the ballots to Mr. SEBASTIAN, a deputy Sheriff of Breathitt county, to take to the Crockettville precinct to prevent the Callahan faction, supporting RAWKINS, from securing them.

Events move rapidly in the capital of feudalism, where, as we have said, the cartridge is the ultimate argument. On Friday last, the Democrats being deeply suspicious of the designs of the Republicans, County Judge TALLBERG and Sheriff CRAWFORD demanded the keys of the court house of Jailer LITTLE, who it was rumored had been concealing arms and ammunition in the building for use on election day. The keys were surrendered and the Democrats moved in. At the same time the Hargis and Crawford buildings near by were occupied by a "number of men [of the Democratic faith] fully armed." So ominous an aspect did things wear that "many leading Republicans departed from town, leaving the remainder of the population in a state of uneasiness." There was no explosion, however. It may have been noticed that while private grudges are freely settled in Kentucky by a bullet from ambush, alarming combinations of men to wage war on a large scale for political principle seldom do much shooting to kill. The clouds of civil strife gather, menace flashes from stern eyes, serried rifles clink, women wring their hands in anguish—and then the hostile bands come to an agreement about the offices, mount their mules or congest the smoking cars, and there is nothing for the State Guards to do but doff their uniforms.

Apparently Breathitt is too much in love with war for its own sake to allow the occasion at Jackson to pass without a killing or two. Let us hope that election day will end with nothing more terrible than a seasonable consumption of eggnog and straight whiskey. In a spirit of compromise the followers of Judge ADAMS, the Republican candidate, and ex-Judge REDWINE,

who preceded ADAMS in the office of Circuit Judge and covets it again, agreed that all the ballots should be in the hands of the election officers when the polls opened this morning. This is as it should be—as it would be in tame New York; but with so many voters under arms and inflamed by clan memories anything may happen at Jackson over night, particularly as Judge ADAMS has been "severe" on "blind tigers," which is not considered the fair way to enforce a liquor law in Breathitt.

In this city of New York the "gangs," much celebrated in legend, that make war one upon the other with more or less blood letting between electors are drafted by the politicians whenever their services are needed on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. It never occurred to us that Breathitt county could furnish a parallel, but so it seems to be, and hereafter when the romantic tale goes round of the hates of the mountaineers we shall be forced to think of the political as well as of the social side of their immemorial feuds.

President GAUS announced to-night after a long wait that he had received a letter from the Government in relation to the effect of the Government on the Italian immigrant problem. The letter was to the effect that the Government was determined to effect a reduction in the number of Italian immigrants.

Thus does little Cuba set an example to her guardian.

Deplorable as the death of Cadet BYRN of the Military Academy from an injury on the football field was it is not likely that the game will be interdicted at West Point; or at Annapolis, where Midshipman WILSON, who was also hurt on the football field, lies in a critical condition in the hospital of the Naval Academy. As long as the sport is retained by the colleges neither of the institutions that are training young Americans to command soldiers and sailors in battle will feel like discarding football because it cannot be played without physical risk.

It ought to be no secret that the authorities at West Point and Annapolis do not shudder at the dangers inseparable from the game, but see an educational value in the physical contact it requires and the strategy it teaches. If fatal casualties were not uncommon in contests in which the cadets and midshipmen engage there would be no question about abandoning football, for the education of young men to be officers contemplates their employment in actual warfare: football would then have to go. It is because the game so rarely deprives the country of the services of an officer trained at its expense that, taking into further account the good features of football as military and naval men see them, those who are responsible for the system of training at the two academies are not inclined to strike this sport from a limited list of recreations.

At all events the Hon. RICHARD CROKER is having the time of his life.

NOTES OF JAPAN'S PROGRESS.

By Imperial Ordinance No. 330, August 5, 1909, Japan prohibits until further notice the importation of cattle from China, Korea and Siberia. In 1909 Japan imported 3,325,341 pigs (a piglet is 135 pounds of sugar, worth \$6.75, which was before the tariff was raised to \$10.00 in 1907. This does not include 125,000 pounds of Formosan sugar. To the sugar industry is refunded the duty paid on raw sugar (Dutch standard No. 14, or about imported which is refined and exported within one year. About 90 per cent of her foreign sugar imports are from Dutch India.

Now that Japan controls the administration of the Korean railways and the lives and property of foreigners are safe. The Japanese commercial party now touring the United States had the unique honor of being invited to lunch with the Emperor of Japan the day before the tariff on sugar was raised. The tariff on sugar was raised from 10 per cent to 15 per cent.

For 1910 Marquis Katsura, Japanese Minister of Finance, will adjust and cut down taxes by 10 per cent of an office trained at its expense that, taking into further account the good features of football as military and naval men see them, those who are responsible for the system of training at the two academies are not inclined to strike this sport from a limited list of recreations.

The Oriental Exploitation Company of Japan will be in charge of the railway, sugar, mining, shipbuilding, electrical and other undertakings. This company must not be confused with the Oriental Colonization Company, formed for operation in Korea. Shareholders in the new Central Bank of Korea can be only Japanese or Koreans. The directors are Japanese.

On June 30, 1909, Japan's currency circulation was \$229,300,000, an increase of \$15,100,000 over the figure for June 30, 1908. Japan's foreign trade for the first half of 1909 amounted to \$200,750,000, a decrease of \$13,000,000 from that of the first half of 1908. Exports were \$94,500,000, an increase of \$7,000,000, and imports \$106,250,000, a decrease of \$6,000,000. The balance of trade in favor of Japan gained \$27,000,000.

Improvements made possible and necessary by reason of the recent great fire will go far to make the city of Yokohama a more attractive place. The Japanese insurance companies have paid their losses promptly. The recently obtained foreign loan of \$10,000,000 will help things materially.

Under Japan's 1911 tariff revision the list of dutiable articles will number over 10,000. The tariff will be taxed lightly and luxuries heavy. The tariff will be neither "free trade" nor "high protection."

On October 1, 1909, the postal savings banks of Japan held \$17,700,000, a gain of \$225,000 over 1907. Of Japan's postal savings funds about \$50,000,000 of the sum of \$1,000,000 is loaned to the various prefectures for the development of local industries, and the remainder is used for the people being used to help find work for the people.

On June 30, 1909, Japan's national loans amounted to \$1,218,401,294, of which \$882,600,000 was held in Tokyo. Foreign loans amounting to \$1,072,100,000, representing \$2,700,000, in the year ended June 30, 1909, there were only 30 defaults.

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COMPOUNDING FELONY.

How Long Is the Loebian Practice to Be Allowed to Continue?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: How long is the state of affairs that now exists in the New York Custom House to last? Is the Hon. William Loeb the court, jury and the Judge combined? It would seem as if his action in the Musica case, which you have so justly deplored, is to be taken as a criterion. Great is the indignation of the customs band when an Italian is caught importing cheese that has been underweighed! Jail is none too bad a place for the miscreant; and to jail, with the aid of the sanctimonious Collector, he goes. But the pirates in the customs service who shared the gain and for whose complicity the crime could never have been committed are absolved and still inspect. This is more than an injustice; it is an insult to the community.

EDMUND KEMPER.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., October 30.

Out With the Thieves and the Collector!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Straight from the White House, with little or no knowledge of the business affairs of the great and small merchants of this city, why was Loeb appointed Collector of the Port in preference to an experienced and worthy business man? If ever there was an office open to a high class, honorable merchant, it is the Collectorship, is it not?

The tactics of Mr. Loeb consist in retaining employees of known dishonesty to work side by side with honest men or those who are honestly striving to be honest. Promptly discharge the acknowledged thieves, but first place a man of action, courage and business ability at the head. MISSOURI.

NEW YORK, November 1.

THE PROGRESS OF ZELAYA.

How the Nicaraguan Constitution Has Been Enamoured.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Your news service as to the Nicaraguan revolution has been very efficient. News from Bluefields as to conditions in the interior of Nicaragua may be inaccurate, because the moment revolution broke out all communication with the interior was cut off. This is the case with the population of the Atlantic coast is striding along the seashore. Between the shore line and the interior lies a hundred to a hundred and fifty miles of impenetrable and uninhabitable jungle. There are only two roads by which the country can be reached. One is the road to the Atlantic coast is striding along the seashore. Between the shore line and the interior lies a hundred to a hundred and fifty miles of impenetrable and uninhabitable jungle. There are only two roads by which the country can be reached. One is the road to the Atlantic coast is striding along the seashore. 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